

I use Wi-Fi in public places a great deal. While I don't believe that I actively engage in any form of copyright infringement, should an establishment that I am using the Wi-Fi of be charged if I break copyright infringement? No.

It would be like taking a gun manufacturer to court when a gun they manufactured is involved in a shooting. It would be like prosecuting a drinks manufacturer when their alcoholic beverage was the main product consumed by a key aggressor involved in a drunken brawl in a pub. It would be like charging a laptop manufacturer if one of their laptops was used in the creation of a treasonable piece of literature. It is akin to charging an ISP should their service be used to assist in downloading questionable materials.

None of the above is actionable in this manner in the UK legal system at this moment in time. So why should Wi-Fi providers be responsible for the actions of those that use their service?

The situation of Wi-Fi providers needs to be addressed in this legislation and it needs to be addressed so that onus is placed on the end-user and not the service provider.

At the same time, I still feel that vast swathes of the DEA are not fit for purpose and are unworkable. This instance is just one of far too many problems with the DEA.